

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO HQ US CUSTOMS SERVICE WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 953

AMEMBASSY ROME

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CUSTOMS FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION;
STATE FOR S/NM AND EUR/EE; ROME FOR CUSTOMS ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, BU

SUBJECT: US CUSTOMS OBSERVATION PROGRAM FOR BULGARIAN CUSTOMS
DG AND IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

REF: A. CUSTOMS 2713 B. SOFIA 249

1. TSVETKOV HAS INFORMED NARCOTICS COORDINATOR THAT BONEV
WAS UNABLE TO ACCEPT APRIL INVITATION BECAUSE OF PARTICIPATION
IN HIGH-LEVEL GOB DELEGATION TO TURKEY THAT MONTH. TSVETKOV
HOPED INVITATION COULD BE EXTENDED AT LATER DATE AND EXPRESSED
GREAT SATISFACTION WHEN HE WAS TOLD INVITATION REMAINS OPEN.
HE SUGGESTED NEW DATE MIGHT BE SET IN CONSULTATION WITH
US CUSTOMS OFFICIALS DURING IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM IN JUNE.

2. DATES FOR IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM GIVEN IN REF B REMAIN
VALID. TSVETKOV HAD PLANNED TO DISCUSS PROGRAM CONTENT DURING US
VISIT, BUT NOW THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE, WISHES TO KNOW IF US CUSTOMS
REPRESENTATIVES PLAN CONSULTATION TRIP TO BULGARIA PRIOR TO
PROGRAM. TSVETKOV WOULD WELCOME VISITORS FROM WASHINGTON
HEADQUARTERS OR US CUSTOMS ATTACHES, BUT HOPES SUCH VISIT
COULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE APRIL 15 WHEN HE PLANS TO GO ON
VACATION. PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY IF SUCH A VISIT IS FEASIBLE.

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3. TSVETKOV EXPRESSED AGAIN -- AS SO OFTEN IN PAST --

PREFERENCE TO HAVE 1976 US TRAINING TEAM INCLUDE SOME
MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PREVIOUS TRAINING SESSIONS IN
BULGARIA.
HERZ

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